

Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

In the Matter of

JAN 20 2004

Amendment of Section 73.202(b),  
Table of Allotments,  
FM Broadcast Stations  
(Mt. Union, Huntingdon, Centre Hall, and  
South Williamsport, Pennsylvania)

)  
)  
) MB Docket No. 03-231  
) RM-10818  
)  
)  
)

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

REPLY COMMENTS OF DAME BROADCASTING, LLC

ORIGINAL

January 20, 2004

John G. Holland  
David D. Burns  
Tonya Rutherford  
LATHAM & WATKINS LLP  
555 11<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Suite 1000  
Washington, D.C. 20004-1304  
Counsel for Dame Broadcasting, LLC

No. of Copies rec'd 074  
List ABCDE

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY .....	ii
I. Commission Policies Disfavor Move-In Petitions.....	2
II. Centre Hall Is Not A Community For Allotment Purposes And Therefore Is Not Entitled To A First Local Service Preference. ....	3
A. Centre Hall Has Been Absorbed into the State College Metropolis.....	4
B. Megahertz Has Failed to Demonstrate Centre Hall's Independence Under the <i>Tuck</i> Criteria.....	6
III. The Commission Should Preserve Existing Service.....	10
IV. If The Commission Determines That Centre Hall Is A Community For Allotment Purposes, The Commission Should Allow Dame A Centre Hall-Boalsburg Dual City Allotment. ....	11
V. Conclusion .....	11

## **SUMMARY**

Dame Broadcasting, LLC submits the following Reply Comments in response to the comments filed by Megahertz Licenses, LLC (“Megahertz” or “Petitioner”) in support of Megahertz’s petition to amend the FM Table of Allotments so as to upgrade station WXMJ(FM) to Class B1 status and to move the station into the State College, Pennsylvania market by allotting WXMJ a new community of license, Centre Hall, Pennsylvania, in place of its current community of license, Mount Union, Pennsylvania.

As Dame stated in its initial comments, Megahertz’s proposal is designed to allow Megahertz’s WXMJ(FM) to serve 100% of the already well-served State College market --not the 1,079 people that live in Centre Hall. Dame urges the Commission to reject Megahertz’s proposal because the Petitioner has failed to establish that Centre Hall is a community for allotment purposes and sufficiently distinct from State College to justify a first local service preference under the Commission’s FM allotment priorities. The Commission has an obligation to ensure that less densely populated areas, such as Mount Union, are not abandoned for more populous ones -- under the guise of providing a first local service to a location that amounts to nothing more than a suburb of a metropolitan area. The Commission also is tasked with the responsibility of preserving existing service, particularly in cases such as this one where new underserved area would be created in order to provide yet another service to an already well-served community. Disrupting existing service to over 1,300 people not only is inconsistent with Commission precedent, but it also fails to serve the public interest.

If the Commission determines that Centre Hall is a community for allotment purposes, the Commission should allow Dame a Centre Hall-Boalsburg dual city allotment. Unlike MegaHertz’s proposal, Dame would not have to relocate its transmitter site in order to

serve Centre Hall. Station WBUS(FM) already provides a 70 dBu signal to Centre Hall from its existing transmitter site. A dual city allotment would serve the public interest because it ensures residents of Centre Hall a first local transmission service without interrupting existing service to any community.

**Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Amendment of Section 73.202(b),	)	MB Docket No. 03-231
Table of Allotments,	)	RM-10818
FM Broadcast Stations	)	
(Mt. Union, Huntingdon, Centre Hall, and	)	
South Williamsport, Pennsylvania)	)	

**REPLY COMMENTS OF DAME BROADCASTING, LLC**

Dame Broadcasting, LLC ("Dame"), parent company of the licensees of WBUS(FM), Boalsburg, PA; WRSC(AM), State College, PA; WQWK(FM), University Park, PA; WJHT(FM), Port Matilda, PA; and WBLF(AM), Bellefonte, PA, hereby submits its Reply Comments in the above-captioned proceeding.<sup>1</sup> Megahertz Licenses, LLC ("Megahertz" or "Petitioner") petitioned the Commission to commence this proceeding to amend the FM Table of Allotments.<sup>2</sup> Megahertz and Dame filed comments in response to the NPRM.<sup>3</sup>

As Dame noted in the Dame Comments, Megahertz's proposal is designed to allow Megahertz's WXMJ(FM) to serve 100% of the already well-served State College market -- not the 1,079 people that live in Centre Hall. As demonstrated below, the Commission should dismiss the Petition because Megahertz has failed to establish that Centre Hall is a community for allotment purposes and sufficiently distinct from State College to justify a first local service

---

<sup>1</sup> *In the Matter of Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Mt. Union, Huntingdon, Centre Hall, and South Williamsport, Pennsylvania), Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, DA 03-3552 (rel. Nov. 14, 2003) ("NPRM").*

<sup>2</sup> Petition for Rulemaking of Megahertz Licenses LLC filed in MB Docket No. 03-231, RM-10818 on Jan. 3, 2003 ("Petition").

<sup>3</sup> Comments of Megahertz Licenses, LLC filed in MB Docket No. 03-231, RM-10818 on Jan. 5, 2004 ("Megahertz Comments"); Comments of Dame Broadcasting, LCC filed in MB Docket No. 03-231, RM 10818 on Jan. 5, 2004 ("Dame Comments").

preference under the Commission's FM allotment priorities. Alternatively, if the Commission concludes that Centre Hall is a community for allotment purposes, the Commission should modify Dame's license to provide for a Centre Hall-Boalsburg dual city allotment, rather than grant Megahertz's Petition, which will create an underserved area affecting over 1,300 people.

## **I. COMMISSION POLICIES DISFAVOR MOVE-IN PETITIONS.**

The Commission will not blindly apply the first local service preference of the FM allotment priorities when a station seeks to reallocate a channel from a rural community to a suburban community of a nearby urban area.<sup>4</sup> In fact, the Commission has acknowledged that an inflexible approach to first local service allotments "without further analysis, could consistently result in [a] finding that a reallocation leading to first local service for a suburb of a much larger adjacent metropolitan center justifies removing a local service from a *more remote* community."<sup>5</sup> Transforming WXMJ from a station that serves the sparsely populated rural area of Mount Union into a station that serves a much larger city is precisely what Megahertz seeks to do. The Commission has an obligation to ensure that less densely populated areas, such as Mount Union, are not abandoned for more populous ones<sup>6</sup> -- under the guise of providing a first local service to a location that amounts to nothing more than a suburb of a metropolitan area.

---

<sup>4</sup> *Modification of FM and TV Authorizations to Specify a New Community of License*, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 5 FCC Rcd 7094, 7096 (1990) ("New Community Order").

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> *See Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations, (Sumter, Orangeburg and Columbia, South Carolina)*, Report and Order, 11 FCC Rcd 6376, 6377 ¶ 7 (1996) (stating "we do not believe that a mathematical calculation . . . adequately captures, by itself, the public interest considerations we must take into account. If we were to strictly adhere to such mathematical formulae, we could well find it desirable to remove services from rural areas to more populous areas.").

**II. CENTRE HALL IS NOT A COMMUNITY FOR ALLOTMENT PURPOSES AND THEREFORE IS NOT ENTITLED TO A FIRST LOCAL SERVICE PREFERENCE.**

Just as Dame predicted in its Comments, Megahertz has failed to demonstrate that Centre Hall is sufficiently independent of State College to warrant a first local service allotment under the criteria established in *Tuck*.<sup>7</sup> As an initial matter, Dame notes that Petitioner's argument that a *Tuck* analysis is not required here because Centre Hall falls outside of the State College Urbanized Area is contrary to Commission precedent.<sup>8</sup> In fact, since 1995, the Commission has required a *Tuck* showing if a station proposes to provide a 70 dBu signal to 50% or more of an urbanized area, *even if the proposed community of license is not located within that urbanized area*.<sup>9</sup> As the Commission stated in the NPRM, WXMJ will place a 70 dBu signal over 100% of the State College Urbanized Area.<sup>10</sup> For this reason, the Commission appropriately directed Megahertz to provide a *Tuck* showing demonstrating that Centre Hall is independent of State College.

The Commission relies on criteria established in *Tuck* to determine whether a community should be awarded a first local service preference. The criteria are as follows: (1)

---

<sup>7</sup> *Faye & Richard Tuck, Inc.; KBEC, Waxahachie, Texas; Bluebonnet Radio Broadcasters, Inc., Plano, Texas; Century Broadcasting Corp. Garland, Texas; Dontron, Inc. KPBC, Garland, Texas; For Construction Permit for a New AM Station*, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 3 FCC Rcd 5374 (1988) ("*Tuck*").

<sup>8</sup> Megahertz Comments at 2.

<sup>9</sup> *Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Headland, Alabama and Chattahoochee, Florida)*, Report and Order, 10 FCC Rcd 10352 (1995); *see also, Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Darien, Rincon and Statesboro, Georgia)*, *Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Screven, Rincon, and Statesboro, Georgia; Palatka and Middleburg, Florida)*, Report and Order, 17 FCC Rcd 20485 (2002) (requiring *Tuck* showing even though the proposed community of license was located within 35 kilometers of the urbanized area).

<sup>10</sup> NPRM at ¶ 5.

signal population coverage; (2) the size of the suburban community relative to the adjacent city; and (3) the interdependence of the suburban community with the central city. The Commission evaluates the third criterion by analyzing eight additional factors: (1) the extent to which the community residents work in the larger metropolitan area, rather than the specified community; (2) whether the smaller community has its own newspaper or other media that cover the community's needs and interests; (3) whether the community leaders and residents perceive the specified community as being an integral part of, or separate from, the larger metropolitan area; (4) whether the specified community has its own local government and elected officials; (5) whether the smaller community has its own telephone book provided by the local phone company or zip code; (6) whether the community has its own commercial establishments, health facilities, and transportation systems; (7) the extent to which the specified community and the central city are part of the same advertising market; and (8) the extent to which the specified community relies upon the larger metropolitan area for various municipal services such as police, fire protection, schools, and libraries. The Commission considers a community independent when a majority of these factors are satisfied.<sup>11</sup> Megahertz fails to satisfy a majority of the *Tuck* factors.

A. **Centre Hall Has Been Absorbed into the State College Metropolis.**

Centre Hall, only 10 miles east of State College, is an integral part of the larger State College metropolis. The population of Centre Hall is a mere 2.8% of the population of State College, and less than 1% of the population of Centre County (.79%), the county seat of both Centre Hall and State College. From 1990-2000, the population in Centre County grew by

---

<sup>11</sup> See Amendment of Section 73.202(b), *Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Parker and St. Joe, Florida)*, Report and Order, 11 FCC Rcd 1095 (MM Bur. 1996); Amendment of Section 73.202(b), *Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Jupiter and Hobe Sound, Florida)*, Report and Order, 12 FCC Rcd 3570 (MM Bur. 1997).



8.8 percent, while the state population only grew by 3.4%. Given Centre Hall's close proximity to and its strong social and economic connections with State College, it is clear that the Petition is an attempt to abandon the sparsely populated radio market in Mount Union in order to establish WXMJ as a major player in the more populous and growing, but already well-served, State College market.

In an attempt to demonstrate that community leaders and residents perceive themselves as separate from State College, Megahertz places heavy reliance on Centre Hall's early history. Suburban residential development and commercial growth, however, have dramatically changed the relationship between State College and the communities that surround it. State College and Centre Hall are no longer the separate and distinct communities that they once may have been. Roads connecting Centre Hall and State College, such as Pennsylvania Route 45, are no longer the country roads that they once were.<sup>12</sup> Many such highways, once used as truck routes, have developed into commuter routes. For example, approximately 60% of automobiles on Route 45 travel between State College and east of Centre Hall.<sup>13</sup>

Population sprawl in Centre County has strengthened the social and economic connections between Centre Hall and State College and the surrounding area. The population of Centre County increased significantly between 1970 and 1990, growing by over 26%.<sup>14</sup> During the 1990s, however, State College proper experienced a decline in population, while the surrounding townships, particularly those located along major highways, experienced population increases.<sup>15</sup> Indeed, over the last 30 years significant suburban residential development and

---

<sup>12</sup> Attachment A.

<sup>13</sup> *Id.*

<sup>14</sup> *Id.*

<sup>15</sup> CDT Editorial Board, *Our View*, Centre Daily Times, Mar. 13, 2001, at 6A.

commercial growth in Centre Hall, Boalsburg, Potters Mills, and in Potter Township (where Centre Hall is located) have contributed to a rapid increase in traffic volumes in Centre County, as well as frequent accidents, and dramatic changes in land use. The effects of population sprawl in these communities led county transportation planners to conduct a study of the transportation deficiencies in south central Centre County.<sup>16</sup> Rather than view Megahertz's proposal in isolation, the Commission must evaluate the Petition in the context of these significant developments.

**B. Megahertz Has Failed to Demonstrate Centre Hall's Independence Under the *Tuck* Criteria.**

With regard to the first of the eight *Tuck* criteria used to determine the independence of a suburban community, Megahertz attempts to demonstrate the extent to which residents of Centre Hall work in Centre Hall.<sup>17</sup> However, its showing is unconvincing, consisting as it does of no more than a list of businesses located in Centre Hall. Megahertz makes no attempt to demonstrate how many persons are employed at those businesses, or the extent to which such employees are residents of Centre Hall.

In fact, available evidence shows that Centre Hall is essentially a commuter suburb of State College. U.S. Census Bureau statistics indicate that the mean commute time for Centre Hall residents is 25.9 minutes, and that 90% of Centre Hall's working population drive to work.<sup>18</sup> Notably, Centre Hall is a mere .6 square miles; thus, a commute time of nearly half an hour by automobile strongly suggests that most residents work outside of Centre Hall in places such as nearby State College, the home of Penn State University, the largest employer in Centre

---

<sup>16</sup> Attachment A.

<sup>17</sup> Megahertz Comments at 4.

<sup>18</sup> Attachment B.

County, or Bellefonte, the seat of the county government, which is the county's sixth largest employer.<sup>19</sup> By Petitioner's own admission, the drive time from Centre Hall to State College is one-half hour.<sup>20</sup> Similarly, the commute time to Bellefonte is approximately one-half hour.<sup>21</sup> These facts demonstrate that Centre Hall residents work in State College, Bellefonte, or some other neighboring town -- not Centre Hall.

Megahertz concedes that it does not meet the second of the *Tuck* criteria: newspapers and media.<sup>22</sup> With regard to the third criterion, Megahertz recites the history of Centre Hall, consisting primarily of events that occurred over one hundred years ago. It is unclear what relevance those events have to the manner in which current residents of Centre Hall perceive themselves, and no evidence in the form of statements from current residents and community leaders or otherwise has been provided with respect to this criterion.

Megahertz does indicate in its Comments that it plans to supplement its Comments in regard to the third *Tuck* factor.<sup>23</sup> The Commission should strike any such supplement, whether filed as part of reply comments of Megahertz or separately. Section 1.415 of the Commission's Rules contemplates a reasonable time for filing initial comments and reply comments, and does not provide a party free rein to supplement its comments at will. Therefore, the Commission has dismissed reply comments that are directed to issues raised in a notice of proposed rulemaking on the grounds that such matters should have been addressed in initial

---

<sup>19</sup> Penn State University employed almost 11,000 people in 2001, while the county government employed approximately 753 people. The only Centre Hall company to make the list of top 20 employers in Centre County was the Meadows Psychiatric Center. Attachment C.

<sup>20</sup> Megahertz Comments at 8.

<sup>21</sup> Attachment D.

<sup>22</sup> Megahertz Comments at 4.

<sup>23</sup> Megahertz Comments at 8.

comments, and that a party should limit its reply comments to matters raised in other parties' initial comments.<sup>24</sup> The Commission requested that Megahertz fully address the *Tuck* analysis in its Comments.<sup>25</sup> Megahertz should have done so and should not be permitted to return to those matters in a supplement or in reply comments.

Regarding the fifth *Tuck* criterion, Centre Hall does not have its own phone directory. Rather, its listings are interspersed throughout the State College directory with listings from other towns.<sup>26</sup>

With respect to the sixth *Tuck* criterion (commercial establishments, health facilities, and transportation systems), Megahertz is able to identify some businesses located in Centre Hall. It falls short, however, in its attempts to identify health and transportation facilities. Aside from a single physician and a four-physician psychiatric center, Megahertz is able to identify no health facilities (other than a few veterinary practices) in Centre Hall<sup>27</sup> and identifies no transportation facilities at all. There is no hospital located in Centre Hall that serves the

---

<sup>24</sup> *Amendment of Section 73.622(b), Table of Allotments, Digital Television Broadcast Stations (Chattanooga, Tennessee)*, Report and Order, 16 FCC Rcd 3121, 3122 ¶4 (2001)(stating “reply comments are designed to provide a reasonable time for parties to respond to issues raised in original comments”). See also, *Amendment of Section 73.622(b), Table of Allotments, Digital Television Broadcast Stations (Fort Myers, Florida)*, Report and Order, 17 FCC Rcd 23492 note 2 (2002)(reply comments dismissed “because they raise new matters that should have been filed during the initial comment period”); *Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Oraibi and Leupp, Arizona)*, 14 FCC Rcd 13547 note 1 (1999)(“The purpose of reply comments is to address issues raised in any filed comments.”)

<sup>25</sup> NPRM at ¶ 5.

<sup>26</sup> Attachment E.

<sup>27</sup> Megahertz Comments at 6-7.

Haines.<sup>32</sup> Penns Valley Area Junior/ Senior High School is physically located in Spring Mills, Pennsylvania, northeast of Centre Hall and approximately 7 miles away.<sup>33</sup>

When, as is the case here, a petitioner is unable to show that a majority of the *Tuck* factors demonstrate that the proposed community is distinct from the urbanized area, the Commission must deny the allotment petition.

### **III. THE COMMISSION SHOULD PRESERVE EXISTING SERVICE.**

As Dame pointed out in its Comments, the Commission should preserve existing service, particularly in cases such as this one where new underserved area would be created in order to provide yet another service to an already well-served community. According to Exhibit 1 to the Megahertz Comments, Petitioner's proposal to allot WXMJ(FM) to Centre Hall will create a loss of service to 24,115 persons, 16,769 of whom will be underserved (with four or fewer aural services). While that proposal, according to Megahertz, will result in a gain of service to over 190,000 persons, only 561 of those persons are currently underserved.

As the Commission has explained in the past, "the public has a legitimate expectation that existing service will continue."<sup>34</sup> Accordingly, the Commission will weigh this expectation "independently against the service benefits that may result from allotting a channel from one community to another, regardless of whether the service removed constitutes a transmission service, a reception service or both."<sup>35</sup> As Dame stated in its Comments, disrupting

---

<sup>32</sup> Attachment F.

<sup>33</sup> Attachment G.

<sup>34</sup> *In the Matter of Amendment of the Commission's Rules Regarding Modification of FM and TV Authorizations to Specify a New Community of License*, 4 FCC Rcd 4870, 4873 (1989) recon. granted in part, 5 FCC Rcd 7094, 7097 ¶ 19 (1990).

<sup>35</sup> *Id.*

existing service on a net basis to over 1,300 people who will, as a result, be underserved is inconsistent with Commission precedent and does not serve the public interest.

**IV. IF THE COMMISSION DETERMINES THAT CENTRE HALL IS A COMMUNITY FOR ALLOTMENT PURPOSES, THE COMMISSION SHOULD ALLOW DAME A CENTRE HALL-BOALSBURG DUAL CITY ALLOTMENT.**

If, despite the facts and arguments set forth herein, the Commission determines that Centre Hall is a community for allotment purposes, then the Commission should modify Dame's license to provide for a Centre Hall-Boalsburg dual city allotment. Less than 9 miles separate Boalsburg and Centre Hall,<sup>36</sup> and as development in south central Centre County has increased, so have the common social and economic interests<sup>37</sup> that the two towns share.<sup>38</sup>

Unlike MegaHertz's proposal, Dame would not have to relocate its transmitter site in order to serve Centre Hall. Station WBUS(FM) already provides a 70 dBu signal to Centre Hall from its existing transmitter site. Modifying Dame's license to include a Centre Hall-Boalsburg dual city allotment best serves the public interest because it ensures residents of Centre Hall a first local transmission service without interrupting existing service to any community.

**V. CONCLUSION**

As set forth in more detail above, the Commission should reject Megahertz's proposal to change the community of license for WXMJ from Mount Union, Pennsylvania, to Centre Hall, Pennsylvania. In the alternative, if the Commission concludes that Centre Hall is a

---

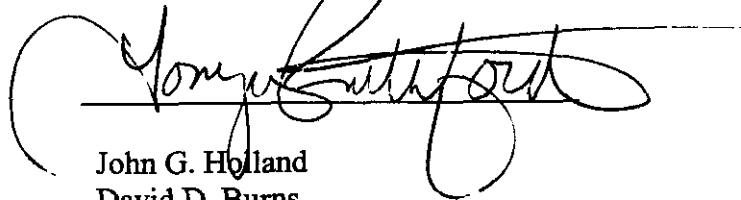
<sup>36</sup> Attachment H.

<sup>37</sup> See e.g., *Amendment of the Commission's Rules Regarding Modification of FM and TV Authorizations to Specify a New Community of License*, Report and Order, 4 FCC Rcd 4870, n.13 (1989).

<sup>38</sup> Indeed, a 2000 study projected a significant increase in traffic volume by 2025 on Route 45 between Centre Hall and Boalsburg. Margaret Hopkins, *In the Works: County Road Projects*, Centre Daily Times, Aug. 13, 2000, at 3E.

community for allotment purposes, the Commission should modify Dame's license to provide for a Centre Hall-Boalsburg dual city allotment.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dame Broadcasting LLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tonya Rutherford", is written over a horizontal line.

John G. Holland  
David D. Burns  
Tonya Rutherford  
LATHAM & WATKINS LLP  
555 11<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Suite 1000  
Washington, D.C. 20004-1304  
Counsel for Dame Broadcasting, LLC

January 20, 2004

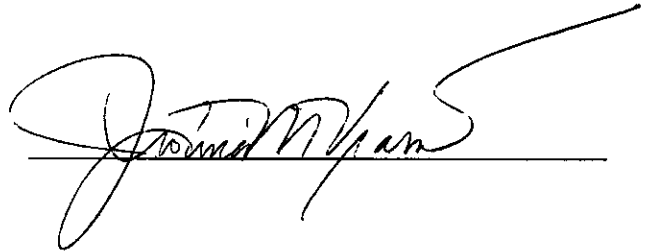
## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Justina Uram, hereby certify that on this 20th day of January 2004, I caused copies of the foregoing Reply Comments of Dame Broadcasting LLC to be sent via first class mail, postage prepaid to the following:

Allan G. Moskowitz  
Kaye Scholer LLP  
901 15<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Suite 1000  
Washington, D.C. 20005

John A. Karousos\*  
Chief, Allocations Branch  
Policy and Rules Division  
Mass Media Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

\* Hand-delivered

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justina Uram", is written over a horizontal line.



# ATTACHMENT A



Newsletter 3

Summer 2000

## South Central Centre County Transportation Study

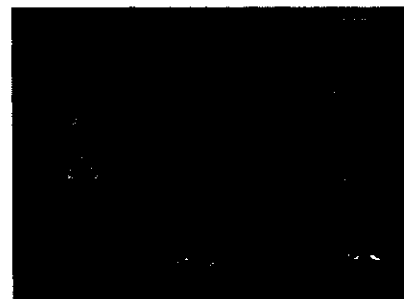
# Newsletter

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation • Federal Highway Administration

## Public Meeting Planned for This Fall...

The South Central Centre County Transportation Study (SCCCTS) is progressing according to plan. A public meeting will be conducted this fall to present the information collected thus far, and for the public to provide comments. No solutions will yet be researched. Topics to be discussed at the meeting include the following:

- Traffic Study Results & Identification of "Needs"
- Performance Measures  
(Community Goals & Objectives)
- Land Use Trends and Forecasts



SCCCTS Project Team and attendees discuss the project at the October 1999 Public Meeting

Open

## What Are Project "Needs"?

The requirement for defining the "need" for a transportation project is found in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). "Needs" must be defined for all transportation projects to a level of detail consistent with the complexity and type of project and the size of the study area for the project. The "needs" are used to identify specific transportation problems or deficiencies which have generated the search for improvements. This information is used to establish the purpose, type, size and location of any proposed transportation improvements, and thus ensure that only prudent, feasible, and practicable solutions are being considered. Preliminary information anticipated to be developed via a CAC/Agency workshop and presented to the public in early 2001.

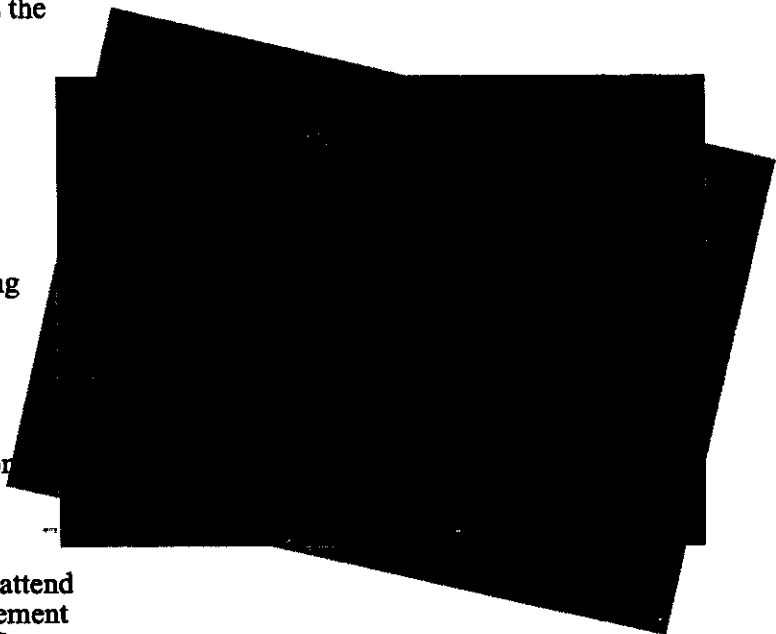
# Community Advisory Committee Works For You...

Public involvement is critical to the success of every transportation project. That's why PennDOT includes the community in each stage of a project, from planning through engineering.

PennDOT established a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) for this project to heighten the Department's awareness of community issues and provide a forum to exchange information regularly. The CAC helps the project team become aware of values, opinions and concerns for consideration during the project's development.

The CAC is comprised of people representing a balance of interests throughout the study area. Meetings are held monthly at various locations in the project study area. The minutes of each meeting are posted on the website.

In addition to obtaining feedback from the CAC, PennDOT will continue to conduct public meetings, attend special group meetings and coordinate public involvement directly through the project office. The monthly CAC meetings are now open for public observation. PennDOT is also providing information through newsletters and the project website.



## SCCCTS CAC MEMBERS

ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN
ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN
ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN
ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN
ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN
ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN
ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN
ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN
ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN
ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN	ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN ALAN B. BROWN

## SCCCTS Facts...

*This section is dedicated to bringing you significant project related facts that the Project Team has collected over the past year about the SCCCTS Project Area.*

Did you know that there are ...

- 45,469 total acres
- 8 Natural Heritage Areas
- 3,593 acres of State Forest
- 30,160 residents (estimate)
- 887 acres of mines & quarries
- 128 known archaeological sites
- 79 sinkholes
- 1,038 acres of prison property
- 11,722 housing units within the local municipalities
- 1,205 acres of parkland
- 162 acres of water
- 19,474 acres of agricultural land
- 112 Agricultural Security Areas
- 1,278 acres of floodplain

... in the study area?

## Land Use + Population Growth = More Traffic...

In the past, land use in the study area was primarily agricultural with development localized and concentrated in such areas as State College, Boalsburg, Centre Hall Borough and Pleasant Gap. Over the last 30 years suburban residential development in College and Harris townships has occurred around the historic towns of Boalsburg, Oak Hill, Pleasant, and Linden Hall. Residential and commercial growth has also occurred near Potters Mills, Old Fort, and Centre Hall Borough, in Potter Township and near Pleasant Gap, in Spring Township.

## Population Growth

The population of Centre County grew by over 26% between 1970 and 1990. The Centre Region has accounted for much of this growth, as it claims over one-half of the population of Centre County. Spring, College, and Harris townships are the only townships that are within the study area and included in the Centre Region. Study area municipalities (College, Harris, Spring, Benner and Potter townships and Centre Hall Borough) experienced, on average, a 33% growth rate between 1970 and 1990, with Benner and Potter townships seeing the most significant population increases.

## More Traffic...

Traffic volumes within the study area have been increasing rapidly over the past ten years. Study area roads have experienced a 1% - 8% growth rate per year (see table at right), whereas roads of similar function elsewhere in Pennsylvania have experienced a 2% per year growth rate. Historic volume and classification counts were also obtained from PennDOT and the Centre Regional Planning Agency to determine changes in vehicle type, volume and travel patterns.

### SCCCTS Area Population Growth

Year	1970	1980	1990	% Growth
College Township	1,200	1,400	1,600	33%
Harris Township	1,100	1,300	1,500	36%
Spring Township	1,000	1,200	1,400	40%
Benner Township	900	1,100	1,300	44%
Potter Township	800	1,000	1,200	50%
Centre Hall Borough	700	850	1,000	43%
Study Area Total	6,700	7,850	9,000	33%
Centre County Total	100,000	115,000	130,000	26%

### SCCCTS Area Traffic Growth Rate

Year	1970	1980	1990	% Growth
College Township	1,200	1,400	1,600	33%
Harris Township	1,100	1,300	1,500	36%
Spring Township	1,000	1,200	1,400	40%
Benner Township	900	1,100	1,300	44%
Potter Township	800	1,000	1,200	50%
Centre Hall Borough	700	850	1,000	43%
Study Area Total	6,700	7,850	9,000	33%
Centre County Total	100,000	115,000	130,000	26%

[illegible][illegible]

## SCCCTS Safety Analysis...

Safety on the roadways in the SCCCTS study area is a key component of the traffic analysis. Crash information was collected from PennDOT for 1993 to 1998 on the four study area roadways (U.S. 322, PA 45, PA 144, and Brush Valley Road). The information was analyzed and resulted in a number of conclusions, a few of which are listed below:

- U.S. 322 experiences a fatal crash rate that is more than double the statewide average for similar types of roadways (12 of the 15 fatal crashes in the study area occurred on U.S. 322).
- Heavy trucks are not involved in an excessive number of crashes, and they were not at fault in any of the fatal accidents.
- U.S. 322 experienced 44% of the 577 study area crashes and experienced a higher percentage of sideswipe, non-collision, and head-on crashes than the other roadways in the study area.

- Heavy trucks are not involved in an excessive number of crashes, and they were not at fault in any of the fatal accidents.

- U.S. 322 experienced 44% of the 577 study area crashes and experienced a higher percentage of sideswipe, non-collision, and head-on crashes than the other roadways in the study area.

## and Road Inventory...

In addition to the crash analyses, roadway geometry and characteristics were also studied. A closer look at each of the four roadways within the study area revealed additional problems.

**U.S. 322 experiences deficiencies such as:**

- Numerous driveways, poor sight distance at intersections, poor vertical and horizontal sight distances along the travel lanes, and drainage and erosion problems.

PA 144 has several roadway deficiencies associated with it. Examples of these deficiencies include:

- Geometry that does not meet current design criteria (sharp curves, and steep grades), poor and narrow shoulders, and objects close to the travel lanes.

PA 45 had the least amount of reportable accidents of the four roadways within the study area. However, PA 45 has road conditions (numerous driveways, limited sight distance, and minimal shoulders) similiar to the other roads under study.

[illegible]

The increasing development of the Centre Region is evident as one travels from State College, east toward Centre Hall and beyond. Land use along PA 45 has changed significantly over the past thirty years. This was once primarily an agricultural corridor with small towns located sporadically along the route.

Over the years, development patterns have changed and extensive housing development has occurred along PA 45. As a result, the current traffic reflects a much higher commuter pattern than previous studies.

In 1988 the traffic volume was 7,550 Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) near Mount Nittany Expressway. Currently, the traffic volume at the same location is stated as 8,667 AADT. This current AADT drops to 6,641 vehicles per day east of PA 144 and the village of Old Fort. During the peak hour, which is in the early morning, 1,004 vehicles use the facility per hour. This peak hour volume has shown an increase over the 1988 study and reflects the use of PA 45 as a commuter route, versus a regional or truck route as in the past. In some peak hours, traffic volumes on PA 45 are greater than or similar to those on US 322.

When it comes to transportation, the preservation goals are to be able to move people and goods around the region. Local participation is also valued by the community. The transportation strategy is to provide a mix of transportation options, including walking, biking, and public transit.

In order to avoid as many conflicts as possible, the Project Team has asked other organizations such as the Centre for Archaeology, the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Linden Hall and Pleasant Gap have offered information. Individuals are also encouraged to provide information.